

**Title 6 – Department of Higher Education
Division 10 – Commissioner of Higher Education
Chapter 2 – Student Financial Assistance Program**

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

6 CSR 10-2.150 Access Missouri Financial Assistance Program. The commissioner is amending sections (1), (3), and (5).

PURPOSE: This amendment updates gender-specific language and clarifies the policy for award disbursement and delivery.

(1) Definitions.

(L) Full-time student means a student who is enrolled in at least twelve (12) semester hours, eight (8) quarter hours, or the equivalent in another measurement system, but not less than the respective number sufficient to secure the certificate or degree toward which the student is working in no more than the number of semesters, or their equivalent, normally required by the institution for the program in which the student is enrolled. Provided, however, that an otherwise eligible student having a disability as defined by Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 12101-12213) who, because of *[his or her]***the student's** disability, is unable to satisfy the statutory minimum requirements for full-time status under Title IV student aid programs shall be considered by the approved institution to be a full-time student and shall be considered to be making satisfactory academic progress, as defined in subsection (1)*[(R)](Q)* of this rule, while carrying a minimum of six (6) credit hours or their equivalent at the approved institution.

[(M) His, him, or he shall apply equally to the female as well as the male sex where applicable in this rule.]

[(N)](M) Initial recipient means a student who qualifies under section 173.1104, RSMo, has filed an accurate and complete application by the deadline established by the CBHE for the Access Missouri program, and has not received an Access Missouri award in any prior academic year.

[(O)](N) Increment group shall mean a group organized by EFC in five hundred dollar (\$500) increments into which all eligible applicants are placed.

[(P)](O) Renewal recipient means a student who received an Access Missouri award, who meets the requirements set forth in section 173.1104, RSMo, and who has filed an accurate and complete application by the deadline established by the CBHE for the Access Missouri program.

[(Q)](P) Residency, for the purpose of this rule, shall be determined by reference to the standards set forth in the determination of student residency rule, 6 CSR 10-3.010.

[(R)](Q) Satisfactory academic progress shall be a cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of at least two and one-half (2.5) on a four-point (4.0) scale, or the equivalent on another scale, and, with the exception of grade point average, as otherwise determined by the approved institution's policies as applied to other students at the approved institution receiving assistance under Title IV financial aid programs included in the Higher Education Act of 1965. The calculation of CGPA shall be based on the approved institution's policies as applied to other students in similar circumstances.

(3) Basic Eligibility Policy. To qualify for an Access Missouri award, an initial or a renewal recipient, at the time of his application and throughout the period during which *[he]***the recipient** receives the award, must meet the requirements set forth in section 173.1104, RSMo.

(5) Award Policy.

(D) *[All students]***A student** with an EFC of twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000) or less shall receive at least the minimum annual award amount for *[his]***the institution in which the student is enrolled**, subject to the availability of funds appropriated by the legislature. Maximum annual award amounts for recipients with an EFC above seven thousand dollars (\$7,000) shall be reduced by ten percent (10%) of the maximum EFC for *[his]***the student's** increment group.

(M) The applicant's award will be sent to the approved institution to be *[endorsed by the applicant]***delivered to the student's account**. The institution shall retain the portion of the award that the student owes for expenses and promptly give the applicant any remaining funds.

*AUTHORITY: section 173.1103, RSMo Supp. [2010]***2013**. * Emergency rule filed Aug. 28, 2007, effective Sept. 7, 2007, expired March 4, 2008. Original rule filed Oct. 12, 2007, effective March 30, 2008. Amended: Filed Dec. 15, 2008, effective June 30, 2009. Amended: Filed Dec. 10, 2010, effective June 30, 2011. Amended: Filed June 15, 2016.

*Original authority: 173.1103, RSMo 2007.

PUBLIC COST: This proposed amendment will not cost state agencies or political subdivisions more than five hundred (\$500) in the aggregate.

PRIVATE COST: This proposed amendment will not cost private entities more than five hundred (\$500) in the aggregate.

*NOTICE TO SUBMIT COMMENTS: Anyone may file a statement in support of or in opposition to this proposed amendment with Kelli Reed, Missouri Department of Higher Education, P.O. Box 1469, Jefferson City, MO 65102-1469 or kelli.reed@dhe.mo.gov. To be considered, comments must be received within thirty (30) days after publication of this notice in the **Missouri Register**. No public hearing is scheduled.*